

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 04748 220513Z
ACTION SS-25

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EXDIS

FOR EA/SULLIVAN

E.O. 11652: GDS3
TAGS: MUNC, TW
SUBJECT: NUCLEAR TEAM VISIT
FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A MEMORANDUM PREPARED JULY 19
BY THE AMBASSADOR FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE FUEL TECHNICAL
DISCUSSION TEAM.

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION CONCERNING UP-COMING VISIT OF TEAM
WITH PRESIDENT CHIANG AND SECRETARY-GENERAL TSIANG

FOLLOWING MY INITIAL MEETING ON TUESDAY MORNING (JULY 18)
WITH DR. JOERG MENZEL, I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY OF A CALL
ON PRESIDENT CHIANG TO MENTION TO HIM THAT THE FUEL
TECHNICAL DISCUSSION TEAM WOULD BE ARRIVING IN THE NEXT
FEW DAYS AND WOULD BEGIN TO WORK NEXT MONDAY. I
RECALLED THAT THIS SURVEY WOULD BE IN A SENSE A CONTINUA-
TION OF THAT CARRIED OUT BY AN EARLIER TEAM WITH SOME OF
THE SAME PERSONNEL EARLY IN 1977. A SIGNIFICANT DIFFER-
ENCE, HOWEVER, IS THAT SINCE THE VISIT OF THAT TEAM THE
U.S. NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION ACT HAS BEEN PASSED BY THE
UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND MUCH STRICTER REQUIREMENTS
HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED LIMITING THE EXPORT TO FOREIGN
COUNTRIES OF EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS RELATING TO NUCLEAR
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ENERGY. I SAID THAT WE WERE PLEASED AT THE WORD GIVEN
US BY THE GROG IN ANTICIPATION OF THE VISIT OF THIS
NUCLEAR TEAM, NAMELY, THAT THERE WOULD BE FREE ACCESS
FOR THE TEAM TO ALL FACILITIES RELATED TO NUCLEAR RESEARCH
OR USED BY INER PERSONNEL. THIS WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT
SINCE IF U.S. SUPPORT OF THE NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM HERE
IS TO CONTINUE, THE TEAM MUST BE ABLE TO REPORT TO

WASHINGTON THAT IT HAS NO DOUBTS OR RESERVATIONS ABOUT ACTIVITIES ON TAIWAN IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD, I.E., THAT THERE ARE NONE WITH ANY POSSIBLE MILITARY APPLICATION.

I SAID THAT I WAS AWARE OF COURSE OF THE CLEAR STATEMENTS MADE PREVIOUSLY BY THE PRESIDENT, THEN PRIME MINISTER, BUT WANTED NEVERTHELESS TO EMPHASIZE THE CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE OF THIS TEAM'S VISIT TO FUTURE NUCLEAR ENERGY ACTIVITIES ON TAIWAN.

THE PRESIDENT REPLIED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO CONFIRM WHAT HE HAS SAID BEFORE AND TO WELCOME THE VISIT OF THE TEAM. HE WENT ON TO STATE THAT THE GROC IS NOT ENGAGED AND WOULD NOT ENGAGE IN ANY MILITARY RESEARCH IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD NOR IN THE MANUFACTURE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. FURTHERMORE, IN THIS FIELD AS IN OTHERS, ITS COMPLETELY COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE UNITED STATES REMAINS UNCHANGED, THE TEAM IS MOST WELCOME AND IT WILL HAVE THE DESIRED ACCESS TO ALL FACILITIES.

AT A PRIVATE LUNCHEON JULY 19 WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE, Y.S. TSIANG, I ALSO RAISED THE MATTER OF THE VISIT OF THE NUCLEAR TEAM AND INTRODUCED THE SUBJECT IN ESSENTIALLY THE SAME TERMS AS IN MY CONVERSATION WITH THE PRESIDENT, TOLD Y.S. THAT I HAD TAKEN THE MATTER UP WITH THE PRESIDENT AND TOLD HIM
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WHAT HAD BEEN THE PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE.

I THEN ENLARGED ON THE MATTER SOMEWHAT BY REFERRING TO THE TEAM'S PREVIOUS VISIT WHEN CERTAIN SITUATIONS WERE FOUND TO BE NOT AS PREVIOUSLY REPRESENTED. THIS, COUPLED WITH SOME EARLIER EVIDENCE OF ACTIVITIES WITH A POSSIBLE MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE, RAISED CONSIDERABLE APPREHENSION IN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND NOW THAT THE NEW ACT IS IN EFFECT THERE IS SERIOUS CONCERN ABOUT THE U.S. CONTINUING ITS SUPPLY OF MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT. I HOPED THAT THE TEAM'S VISIT WOULD SERVE TO DISPEL THOSE DOUBTS AND I REFERRED TO THE MATTER OF FREE ACCESS TO ALL FACILITIES. I SAID THAT IF THE TEAM WAS NOT ABLE TO SATISFY ITSELF THAT THERE WERE NO NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES UNDERWAY IN TAIWAN WITH A MILITARY APPLICATION, THE IMPACT ON THE ENERGY AND OVER-ALL ECONOMIC SITUATION HERE COULD BE GRAVE INDEED.

TSIANG APPEARED TO TAKE CAREFUL NOTE OF MY POINTS AND I BELIEVE HE WILL REPORT THEM TO THE PRESIDENT. I ALSO MENTIONED TO HIM THAT ON MONDAY THE TEAM WOULD BE GETTING TOGETHER WITH SUCH PEOPLE AS VICE MINISTER CH'EN AND

VICTOR CHENG AND OTHERS IN THE GROG.
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